

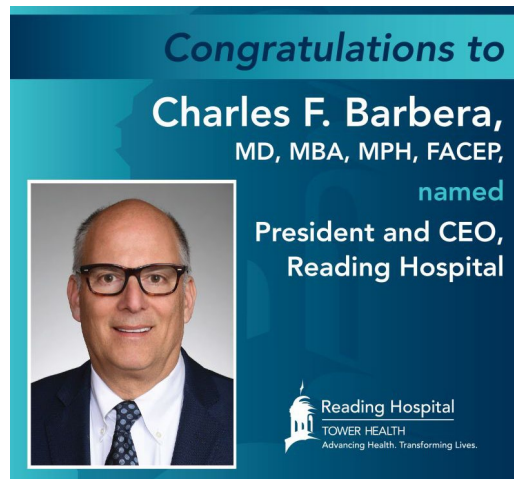
Board of Directors and PTSF Office Update

April 2022

The following communication highlights news from the PTSF office and recent approvals from the PTSF Board of Directors meeting on Friday, March 25, 2022. If you have questions related to the content of this update, please contact [Juliet Altenburg](#), MSN, RN—Executive Director.

PTSF BOARD MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to PTSF Board Chair Dr. “Chuck” Barbera on being named President and CEO of Reading Hospital! All of us at PTSF wish him well and are privileged to serve under his leadership!



PTSF STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to PTSF Director of Accreditation Amy Krichten on being named the President of the Society of Trauma Nurses this year! PTSF Staff and trauma center colleagues were privileged to join Amy in Las Vegas, Nevada in March as she accepted the presidential gavel and was welcomed with much enthusiasm from trauma nurses from across the globe.



Amy Krichten, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN
 PTSF Director of Accreditation

PTSF STAFF JOB OPPORTUNITIES

As part of the PTSF Strategic Plan, PTSF is expanding its services to hospitals by adding additional staff positions. To learn more about how you can join our team and influence trauma care statewide and nationally go to:

<https://ptsf.bamboohr.com/jobs/>

We have positions open in the areas of Accreditation, Trauma Registry, Research, and Operations. Excellent benefits, meaningful work, and tremendous professional growth opportunities await! Check us out!

SITE SURVEY AND ACCREDITATION UPDATES

Amy Krichten, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN, Director of Accreditation

2022 Site Survey Update:

The PTSF Accreditation Team continues to monitor COVID implications and are pleased to watch the statewide and hospital-specific case counts dwindle. Keeping the health and safety of all participants as a priority, as the restrictions lesson, we may be able to increase in-person participant activities. PTSF Survey Leads will connect with Trauma Programs as we get closer to the survey dates to make final determinations. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

PTSF Staff published article in Journal of Trauma Nursing on Virtual Survey Process



PTSF Accreditation Staff Amy Krichten, Darlene Gondell and Anna Over had an article accepted for publication in the Journal of Trauma Nursing: Volume 29: No 2: March-April 2022 entitled “*Virtual Trauma Center Surveys, Are They Virtually the Same?*” The article addressed experiences encountered by PTSF staff, PTSF Board and Trauma Centers comparing a virtual survey format with a traditional on-site survey. The authors acknowledged the participating trauma center staff, surveyors, PTSF Board of Directors and Juliet Altenburg, Executive Director for supporting the project. Pennsylvania continues to lead the way in exploring innovative, efficient, and effective site survey processes.

Future Site Survey and Accreditation Enhancements:

A component of the 2021-2024 PTSF strategic plan includes enhancing the site survey and accreditation process. As a reflection of this, the PTSF Policy and Procedure Committee, in collaboration with the Accreditation Team, recommended the following changes which will be implemented at various stages:

1. Policy AC-139: Level Four Trauma Center Mid-Cycle Panel Review will be updated to reflect:
 - a. The Application for Survey (AFS) content requirements will be significantly decreased to be consistent with the goals of the Mid-Cycle Panel Review as a less-rigorous check-in event.
 - b. The format will be hybrid, with the Trauma Center connecting virtually. This is the current practice.
 - c. Changes will be effective immediately.
2. The Site Survey Guidebook will be updated to reflect:
 - a. TQIP Required Components: Level I, II and III Trauma Centers who receive a TQIP report will be required to submit the most recent report within the AFS and address the report as a component of the PI presentation on survey day. The focus of this presentation is to demonstrate utilization of the report in the PI process. This will be effective for 2023 surveys. The American College of Surgeons began requiring TQIP reports in 2021.

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- b. Virtual Option: Level I, II and III Trauma Center on a full three year (or three plus one-year extension) will have the **option** of having every-other survey in a virtual format. This will not be required; a center may still elect to conduct a traditional on-site survey. A virtual survey will note a decreased site survey fee (total TBD) as it will not involve survey team travel expenses. This will be offered during the save-the-date process and will begin with 2024 surveys. A formal policy and guidebook will be developed to address the logistics of a virtual survey.
3. Proposal to incorporate the use of data to evaluate clinical care and patient outcomes:
 - a. The PTSF Outcomes Committee will develop a recommendation for utilization of PTOS data (or another validated tool) to evaluate clinical care and patient outcomes. This data-driven evaluation would eliminate the need for a third site survey team member and remove one-third of the medical records; thereby decreasing hospital workload and expenses. The ultimate goal would be to apply this process to Level I, II and III trauma centers and decrease survey team members from three to two (one surgeon and one nurse).
 - b. The Board discussed utilization of TQIP for this purpose, but ultimately decided to ask the Outcomes Committee to review options and make formal recommendations.
 - c. As a component of the strategic plan, the goal is to complete the proposal by 2024.

TECHNOLOGY & TRAUMA REGISTRY UPDATES

[Lyndsey Diehl](#), RHIA, CHDA, CSTR, Director of Trauma Registry

2022 Annual ESO Software Update

As of now, every PA trauma center should have received a communication from ESO with information regarding the “fix” for the 2022 Annual Software Update. If you still require assistance with the 2022 software install and/or the corrections, please contact the ESO Customer Support Team at (866) 766-9471 Option 3 or via email at support.ptsf@eso.com.

Important Note - Although the issues with the software update may have delayed your center from installing the 2022 software update, any 2022 PTOS trauma record that was completed in the 2021 software must be updated within the 2022 software and resubmitted to the central site. Please refer to the Update Summary provided by ESO to identify where changes occurred, and corrections will be needed. Contact PTSF Registry Staff for assistance or with any questions.

PTSF staff understands how detrimental software issues have been to not only the trauma registry, but the entire trauma program. Please continue to copy Lyndsey on ESO Support tickets and reach out to PTSF staff with concerns. We are here to support you!

Updated 2022 PTOS Manual & Additional Resources

The [2022 PTOS Manual](#) was updated with various clarifications and is posted to the Resources area of the Trauma Registry section of the PTSF website. Additionally, the following 2022 resources were also updated and posted to the website:

- PTOS/Collector Change Document
- PA EMS Providers

Please refer to the PTOS/Collector Change Document for further details regarding the specific changes that have been made within the PTOS Manual.

Driller

Driller has been updated to include data through Q3 2021! Thank you for your patience. Driller can be accessed on the PTSF Web Portal under “Reporting.” If you need assistance accessing Driller, please contact [Lyndsey](#).

2022 Mid-Year Patch

A software patch to correct identified issues and errors within the registry software is currently being developed. The patch is scheduled to be released the end of June. Further information will be distributed by PTSF and ESO staff in the coming months.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

TRAUMA REGISTRY COMMITTEE

Board Committee Chair: Debbie Chappel, MSN, RN, CCRN-K

PTSF Staff Liaison: [Lyndsey Diehl](#), RHIA, CHDA, CSTR, Director of Trauma Registry

The Trauma Registry Committee and PTSF Board of Directors approved the following changes to PTOS/Collector. These approved changes are effective January 1, 2023, and they will be reflected in the 2023 ESO software update.

1. Removal of PTOS’ optional elective admissions language within the inclusion criteria. Additional language to be added from the NTDS Data Dictionary regarding elective and/or planned surgical intervention.
2. Additional providers to be added to the “Others Called to ED” and “Consults” menus. Additions include:
 - Child Life Specialist
 - Child Protection Team
 - Endocrinology
 - Wound team
 - Pediatric Critical Care
 - Pediatric Surgery
 - Spine
 - Toxicology

Note, these new additions are not required to be captured.

3. Removal of the language “trauma patients are defined as patients remaining at your facility for the treatment or diagnosis of trauma” from the PTOS inclusion criteria.
4. Recording of an arrival date/time for the ED Physician prior to patient arrival date/time to be allowed.
5. The definition of “Time of Decision to Transfer Out” to be expanded to allow the date/time of a nursing, physician, or advanced practice provider (APP) note to be recorded.
6. Removal of “PCR #” from PTOS. Note, this data element will remain in facility-based trauma registries.
7. Removal of the burn specific hospital events from PTOS (#10-14).
 - **10 = Burn Graft Loss Requiring Repeat Procedure:** documented by a physician (includes split thickness graft and free flap loss).
 - **11 = Burn Wound Infection Post Excision:** documented diagnosis by a physician (after excision).

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- **12 = Burn Wound Sepsis** (occurring in a burn patient; which is related to the burn): documented by a physician of drainage of purulent material from the wound, active treatment of the wound, or administration of antibiotics for the wound.
- **13 = Burn Wound Cellulitis**: any documented diagnosis by a physician which includes fungal infection.
- **14 = Delay In Burn Donor Site Healing**: documented by a physician of any healing which begins greater than 14 days post-surgical procedure.

During the 2022 Fall Conference, a detailed review of all changes to PTOS/Collector for 2023 admissions will be presented.

The next Trauma Registry Committee meeting will be held June 9, 2022. Please send any requests for discussion to Lyndsey Diehl.

STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Kimberly Gorman, DNP, AG-ACNP-BC, CNL, CCRN, CNRN, TCRN

Board Committee Vice Chair: Patrick Kim, MD

PTSF Staff liaison: [Darlene Gondell](#), MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CNRN, TCRN, Manager of Accreditation

The Standards Committee and PTSF Board of Directors approved the following update to the Standards of Accreditation. All updates are effective immediately. The revised Standards of Accreditation publications will be available on the PTSF website (dated 4.15.2022) with additional details.

Standard 8: Injury Prevention, Public Education & Outreach

- Revision made to the Standard for all trauma center levels pertaining to SBIRT. The expectation to complete a substance abuse screening on eligible trauma patients (alive, able to participate, not intubated, age 12 and greater, and a hospital stay >24 hours) remains at 80%. The expectation to complete a brief intervention (offering an intervention is acceptable) is reduced to 80% of patients who screened positive for substance use.

Standard 13: Nursing

- Clarified that new nurses at all trauma centers may have education requirements prorated based on start date/calendar year.

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) published the updated Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient on March 21, 2022. The PTSF Standards Committee will review the updated ACS Manual and provide recommendations for updating the PTSF Standards to the Board of Directors. This process will take time. Pennsylvania Trauma Centers do not need to make any changes at their institution based on the updated ACS Manual. Any update in PTSF Standards of Accreditation and the timeframe for compliance will be communicated to all Pennsylvania Trauma Centers in future Board Updates.

Please contact Darlene Gondell at dgondell@ptsf.org with any questions or comments. Requests for Standards Committee topic discussion (for example, suggested new standard or clarification of current standard) should be submitted via this [form](#). The next Standards Committee meeting is **April 19th**.

OUTCOMES COMMITTEE

Board Committee Chair: Denise Torres, MD

Committee Vice-Chair: Jill Volgraf, MSN, RN

PTSF Staff Liaisons:

- [Rebecca Geyer](#), MSN, RN, TCRN, Director of Performance Improvement
- [Gabrielle Wenger](#), RHIT, CPC, CAISS, CSTR, Trauma Registry Auditor

The Outcomes Committee has started the year with reviewing their areas of focus and dividing up into workgroups for 2022. The committee will be focused on reviewing the PI Primer, definitions of harm, and determination definitions. Additionally, our work continues to provide clarity behind Policy TO-100: Timeliness of Submission to the Outcomes Central Site. Our next meeting will be June 16 from 2-3pm.

PIPS COMMITTEE

Committee Chair: Richard Lopez, DO

Committee Vice-Chair: Kim Shoff, BSN, RN, CCRN-K

PTSF Staff Liaisons:

- [Rebecca Geyer](#), MSN, RN, TCRN, Director of Performance Improvement
- [Gabrielle Wenger](#), RHIT, CPC, CAISS, CSTR, Trauma Registry Auditor

The PIPS Committee has started the 2022 calendar year reviewing OFI (Opportunity for Improvement) definitions within the Outcomes Manual. There are four OFI definitions related to the triage of trauma patients (Undertriage, Overtriage, Delay: Trauma Team Arrival and Delay: Trauma Team Notification). These four OFI definitions have been revised and the PIPS Committee will be hosting an **educational statewide webinar on April 18, 2-3pm** (<https://meet.goto.com/249547445>) to review these updated definitions. We invite any trauma program staff, nurse clinicians or trauma surgeons that are involved with triage and PI case review to participate in this webinar, or to review the recorded content once it's posted to the PTSF website. Calendar invites, including the weblink, will be sent to TPMs, TPMDs and PICs, and we encourage you to forward that invitation to others in your trauma center that are interested. Additionally, these OFI definitions have been updated in the Outcomes Manual. The **updated Outcomes Manual has been posted to the website** (www.ptsf.org under Performance Improvement). The clarifications to these definitions are effective immediately, as the process hasn't changed from current practice.

PA-TQIP COLLABORATIVE

Board Chair: Denise Torres, MD

Co-Chair: Russell Dumire, MD

PATNAC Representatives: Jill Volgraf, MSN, RN and Anthony Martin, MBA, BSN, RN, TCRN

PTSF Staff Liaisons:

- [Rebecca Geyer](#), MSN, RN, TCRN, Director of Performance Improvement
- [Gabrielle Wenger](#), RHIT, CPC, CAISS, CSTR, Trauma Registry Auditor

The PA-TQIP Collaborative will be meeting again **on May 18, 2022, from 1-3pm**. The Collaborative will be resuming mortality case reviews at this time and will be sending out the 2022 Confidentiality Agreements prior to the meeting, with instructions on required steps for submission. Additionally, Spring TQIP reports should be available soon, and the

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Collaborative has asked participating trauma centers to *voluntarily self-disclose the Odds Ratio, Outlier and Decile for their Unplanned Visit to OR hospital event*. Once you receive your Spring TQIP report, if your center has agreed to self-disclose, you can send those details to Rebecca Geyer, rgeyer@ptsf.org or Gabrielle Wenger, gwenger@ptsf.org to have your data included in a more detailed review of this hospital event. Our May PA-TQIP meeting will then work to use that information to review the hospital event of Unplanned Visit to OR further. Once Spring TQIP reports are released, additional instructions will be sent to all TPMs and TPMDs.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Board Committee Co-Chair: Henry Boateng, MD

Board Committee Co -Chair: Barbara Gaines, MD

PTSF Staff Liaison: [Darlene Gondell](#), MSN, RN, CCRN-K, CNRN, TCRN, Manager of Accreditation

The PTSF DEI Committee had its inaugural meeting on March 3rd. Committee members are excited to be part of this new committee as it works toward developing a more diverse and inclusive culture both in trauma centers and as part of PTSF operations. The committee is developing workgroups to address topics such as recruitment, representation, and best practices in providing equitable healthcare. **The next meeting is May 26th**. Anyone interested in volunteering for the DEI Committee please contact the PTSF Staff Liaison [Darlene Gondell](#).

POLICY AND PROCEDURE COMMITTEE

Board Committee Chair: Debbie Chappel, RN

PTSF Staff Liaison: Anna Over, Manager of Trauma Center Development

The following policies were updated to reflect current practices and procedures more accurately:

1. AC-133 – Survey Team Member Attendance/ Cancellation for Site Visits
2. AC-136 – Request for Reconsideration of Accreditation Deliberation Decision
3. AC-140 – Level I, II & III Trauma Center Accreditation Extension
4. BD-106 – Conflict of Interest

The updated policies can be found within the [Resources](#) section of the PTSF website.

EDUCATION

PTSF NEW TRAUMA PROGRAM NURSE LEADER ORIENTATION

Trauma Nurse Colleagues—mark your calendars for another PTSF educational offering titled, **New Trauma Program Nurse Leader Orientation**.

- DATE: Wednesday, June 1st from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- REGISTRATION: [CLICK HERE](#) to register!
- COST: There is *no fee* for this online, virtual event.

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AUDIENCE: This *optional* course offers an overview for nurse leaders who are new to their roles in both accredited trauma centers, and hospitals pursuing trauma accreditation. The primary audience includes Trauma Program Coordinators/Managers, Trauma Program Directors, Performance Improvement Coordinators, Nurse Registrars, Educators, and other nurse leaders working with the trauma program.

DESCRIPTION: Provided by PTSF staff, this course features several topics to orient and guide staff in their new role. Highlights include National Trauma Organizations and Resources, the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the PTSF, Trauma Registry, Trauma Performance Improvement, Site Survey & Accreditation, Trauma Program Resources, and “Hot Topics in Trauma.”

If you have any questions about New Trauma Program Nurse Leader Orientation please contact [Anna Over, Manager of Trauma Center Development](#) at aover@ptsf.org.

2021 PTSF ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE ON-DEMAND SESSIONS AND RESOURCES

2021 CONFERENCE ON-DEMAND SESSIONS are now available on the PTSF website

To view the sessions click on the “Annual Fall Conference” section at the bottom of the PTSF website homepage: <https://www.ptsf.org/> Although all sessions are available for viewing, continuing education credits are no longer available. Contact [Linda Stamey](#) with any questions related to the videos and/or continuing education opportunities.

2021 CONFERENCE RESOURCES

During the PTSF Fall Conference, Dr. Mark Gestring, Stop the Bleed Chair for the American College of Surgeons, gave an update on Stop the Bleed educational resources available to trauma centers. Within the chat area, participants asked for links to several videos and resources. See below for links trauma centers can access for more information:

- Stop The Bleed [WEBSITE](#)
 - “Get Trained” - NEW Online Course is posted which can be viewed FREE-OF-CHARGE.
- University of Rochester Kessler Trauma Center Stop The Bleed [VIDEO](#)

PTSF ANNUAL FALL CONFERENCE: OCTOBER 6 AND 7, 2022

October 6-7, 2022 – Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) Annual Conference & Meeting

PTSF staff members are actively planning for an in-person conference October 6-7, 2022, at the Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We look forward to returning to an in-person event after two years of connecting virtually during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. All COVID-19 Safety Mitigation practices recommended by the CDC will be in effect based on COVID-19 community transmission at the time of the event.

2022 PTSF RESEARCH AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

As in years past, PTSF will again host a PTSF Research Competition as part of the 2022 PTSF Conference. Awards will be given for best completed research, best PTOS data request, and Injury Prevention. To learn more, go to the Resources area of the PTSF website under “Research and References”.

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STATE, NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/MEETINGS

Save the Date . . . for upcoming events. Remember to check these organization's websites—dates are subject to change based on the latest COVID-19 guidance. A complete [listing](#) [2022 and future dates] of local, state, national, and international meetings is posted to the website and updated monthly.

April 19-May 4, 2022 – [Trauma Center Association of America \(TCAA\) Annual Conference](#) [virtual]

April 25-26, 2022 – [Pennsylvania Health Information Management Association \(PHIMA\) Annual Conference](#)

May 10-13, 2022 – [Society for Academic Emergency Medicine \(SAEM\) Annual Meeting](#)

May 12-15, 2022 – [American Pediatric Surgical Association \(APSA\) Annual Meeting](#)

May 15-18, 2022 – [American Association of Critical Care Nurses National Teaching Institute, Houston Texas](#)

June 1-3, 2022 – [Pennsylvania Emergency Nurses Association \(ENA\)](#)

June 6 – 8, 2022 – [American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Virtual Conference](#)

June 19-23, 2022 – [National Association of State EMS Officials \(NASEMSO\) Annual Meeting](#)

July 15-18, 2022 – [American College of Surgeons \(ACS\) Quality & Safety Conference](#)

September 17-21, 2022 – [Governors Highway Safety Association \(GHSA\) Annual Meeting](#)

September 21-24, 2022 – [81st Annual Meeting of AAST & Clinical Congress for Acute Care Surgery](#)

September 30-October 3, 2022 – [Emergency Nurses Association \(ENA\) Annual Conference](#)

October 1-4, 2022 – [American College of Emergency Physicians \(ACEP\) Scientific Assembly](#)

October 6-7, 2022 – Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation (PTSF) Annual Conference

October 9-12, 2022 – [AHIMA Conference, Columbus, Ohio](#)

October 11-14, 2022 -- [Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine \(AAAM\) Annual Scientific Conference](#)

October 12-15, 2022 – [Orthopedic Trauma Association \(OTA\) Annual Meeting](#)

October 16-20, 2022 – [American College of Surgeons \(ACS\) Clinical Congress](#)

November 2-5, 2022 – <https://pediatrictraumasociety.org/meeting/>

December 11-13, 2022 – [American College of Surgeons \(ACS\) Trauma Quality Improvement Program \(TQIP\) Conference](#)

2022 PTSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS CALENDAR

Due to the volume of accreditation surveys this year, the PTSF Board meeting calendar is busy with a total of five meetings, three of which involve the PTSF Board reviewing site survey materials and making accreditation determinations. The Board Meeting calendar for the remainder of the year is noted below. In the event new trauma centers are accredited, a statewide press release will be issued within a week following the determination.

- **May 20**
- **July 18 and 19**
- **September 15 and 16**
- **December 8**

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PTSF DIRECTORY

PTSF maintains directories for both Accredited Trauma Centers and hospitals pursuing accreditation. Directories are distributed twice each year in January and July to all trauma programs. It is very important that contact information be reviewed carefully to assure the most accurate and up to date email groups are maintained within the PTSF office. Please submit any changes for your hospital's directory page as soon as they occur to PTSF Administrative Assistant [Linda Stamey](#).

PTSF COMMUNICATIONS FROM HOSPITALS

We encourage that all communications be emailed to the appropriate staff person at the PTSF office in lieu of paper mail to expedite communications and avoid delays with the postal service. Exceptions include trauma center payments which can be mailed to the address noted below.

PTSF Mailing Address

**Pennsylvania Trauma Systems Foundation
275 Cumberland Parkway, #234
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**